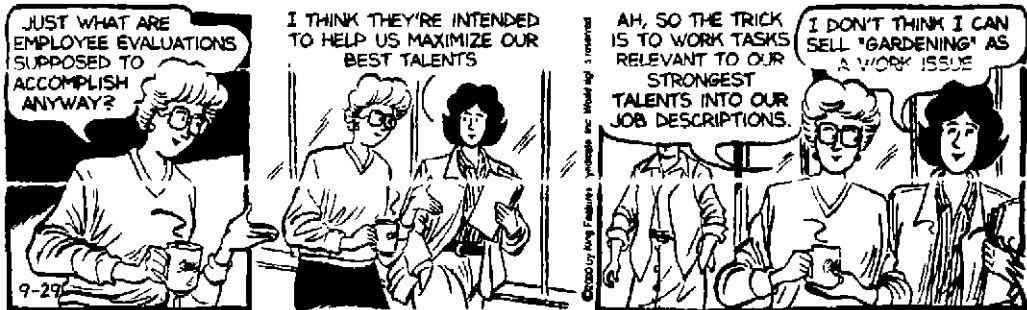


BLONDIE



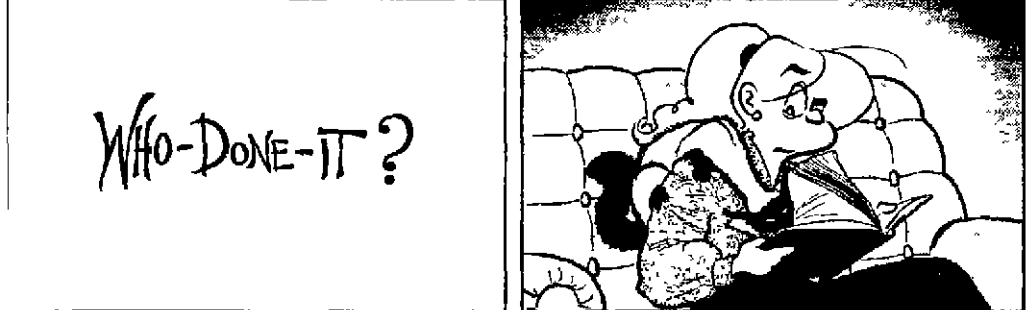
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



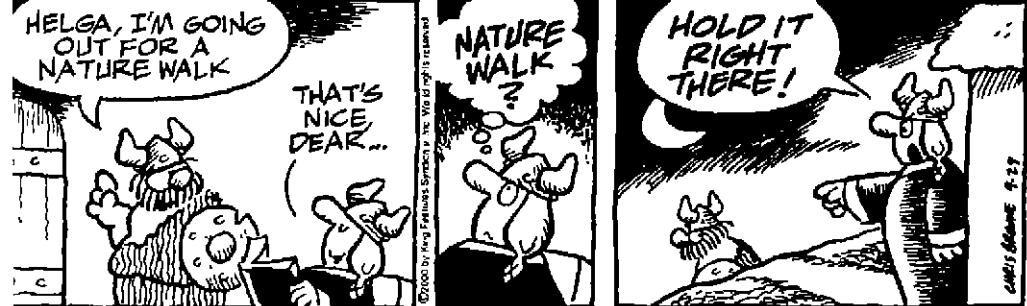
JUMP START



ROSE IS ROSE



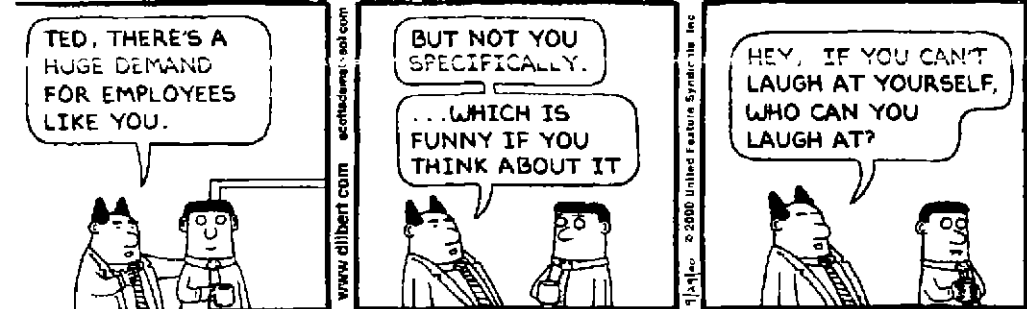
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



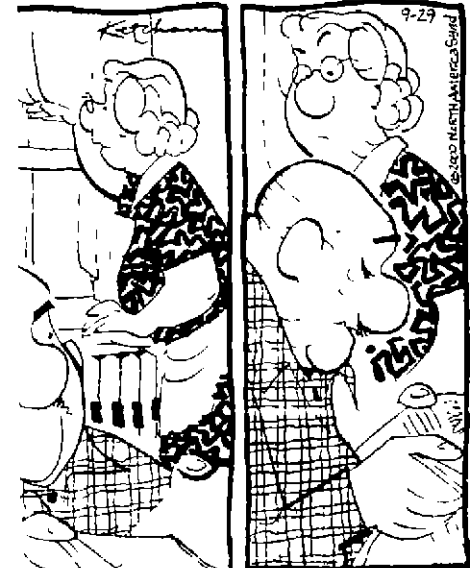
MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



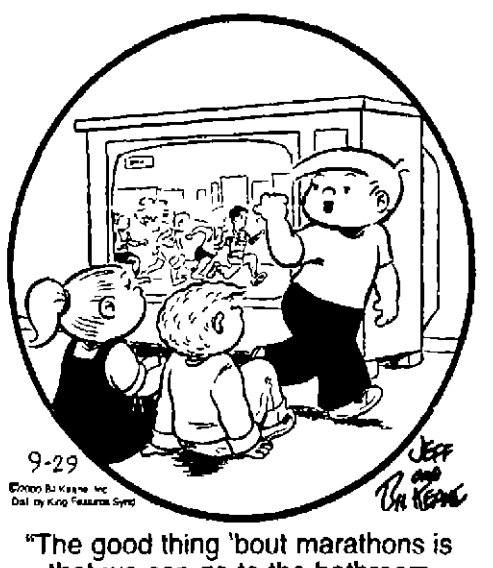
NILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Movie director Michelangelo Antonioni is 88. Movie director Stanley Kramer is 87. Actress Elizabeth Scott is 78. Actor Steve Forrest is 76. Actress Anita Ekberg is 69. Singer Jerry Lee Lewis is 65. Actor Ian McShane is 58. Jazz musician Jean-Luc Ponty is 58. Television-film composer Mike Post is 56. Actress Patricia Hodge is 54. TV personality Bryant Gumbel is 52.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

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Y	A	U	I	D	G	N	N
A	O	I	W	R	R	R	R
Y	A	O	C	L	H	N	N
A	E	S	N	M	W	N	N

PAR SCORE 175-185 by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 letter words get 50 point bonus. 'Banks' used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam Webster) and QSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD 5 SOLUTION TOMORROW 9-29-00

HOROSCOPE

For Saturday, Sept. 30, 2000

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Resist your impulse to fix everything for everybody else, and focus on yourself instead.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Stand strong, as someone challenges your authority in a professional situation.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Don't push yourself too hard, or your body will only force you to take it easy.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Let go of your adult responsibilities for at least a little while as you indulge your flamboyant and creative side.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Don't let a smooth talker get the best of you when you ought to know better.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Your natural curiosity will take you deep into somewhat mysterious realms.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) For once, you won't feel like sharing your personal feelings with friends and family.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Take three deep breaths, and get ready to bare your soul to a loved one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Taking the time to work through a personal dilemma of the past will clear new space for the future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Someone will really shine through as a dear friend in a difficult situation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) If you feel unable to cope with a tricky situation, it might be best to escape with a good book instead.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Being of service to another will be far more rewarding than you anticipated.

WORD SLEUTH

A MEMBER FOR EACH LETTER OF "THE UNITED STATES"

ELIEBYVSQNKHEBY
WTROLJGEOBYWURP
NKIGDBZYMXVSQOM
KIGECARDAAYWUSQ
TPNLJHIENWFECAY
XPVULHUNGARYASY
QPYNAEEMOILODME
OKJGPDAALTNINH
FGCECBZRAYSKAVR
UTOWNRQKSPOEGRU
MLSTKYLATI IHUGT

Thursday's unlisted clue: BERRA

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Friday's unlisted clue: HOME OF THE PYRAMIDS

Angola	Israel	Norway	Togo
Denmark	Italy	Oman	Turkey
Estonia	Nepal	Sweden	Uganda
Hungary	Niger	Thailand	

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ACES

By Bobby Wolff

East's opening bid marked West with a near Yarborough," explained South. "If true, I had no play for the game. In fact, had I lost a finesse against the club queen, East's six-card heart suit would have sent us two down." "The rubber was worth over 700 points," replied North. "An extra one down costs 100 points. Do you think saving 100 points justifies giving up on a possible game and rubber?" South took East's heart 10 with his queen and diamond finesse. As expected, it lost to East's king, and East returned the jack of hearts. With South's ace dislodged and the ace of clubs at large, South held his losses to "only" one down. Certain of five major-suit winners and the diamond ace, South needs three more tricks to make the game. Since he cannot gather nine winners unless the club finesse wins, he must try for three club winners. Note that if dummy had held the club ace instead of the king, it would have been correct to take the diamond finesse. At trick two, South should run his club jack. When it knocks out East's ace, the game is secure. He wins his heart ace to repeat the club finesse, and he collects nine winners as well as his rubber bonus.

NORTH ♠ 10 8 5 2 ♡ A 10 9 5 ♣ K 10 8 7

EAST ♠ J 9 7 ♡ K J 10 7 6 4 ♣ A 5

SOUTH ♠ A Q 5 ♡ A Q 9 ♣ Q J 4 2 ♣ J 9 2

Vulnerable: North South Dealer: East

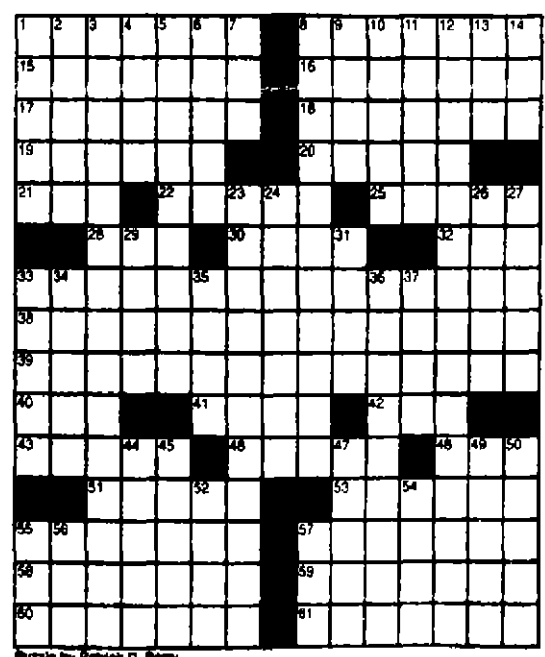
The bidding: East South West North 1 NT Pass JNT All pass

Opening lead: Heart eight

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0818

- ACROSS**
- Like a tête-à-tête sofa
 - Drink to one's health
 - Reason to separate swine
 - Roadblock
 - Beat in a shootout
 - Charges
 - Short, in a way
 - 1,500 years before the Wright brothers' first flight
 - Onetime club initials
 - 70's-90's pitcher Charlie
 - Kind of coil
 - Rd. map line
 - "O Sanctissima," e.g.
 - Buff
 - Like coated fabrics
 - Went off the beam?
 - Gracious admission of an error
 - Spooky place?, Abbr.
 - Pivot
 - The buck stops here
 - Big name at Notre Dame
 - Clashing
 - Spot
 - Flays
 - Companion
 - Style of Hals and Velázquez
 - Some newsbreaks
 - Flower cluster
 - Look through blinds, say
 - Changed
 - Subscription cards, e.g.
- DOWN**
- Beat, in a way
 - Divert
 - Enconced eatery
 - Robert of "Guys and Dolls"
 - Uses as a roost
 - Wordsworth's Muse
 - Bird that nests in chimneys
 - Unhealthy mix
 - Surrounded by
 - Problem in an alley



ANSWERS TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

NESTS PAST SHUN
ALERT OSLO POPE
TALIA STINGIEST
LLAPOSITION
OLDER DACHA
PILLED CROCHET
AMID PMUWHALE
PAN AILERON LES
VGQIPRIDE CENT
REUNITE EMOTES
ISAAC BOSUN
RETRAUOSWEAK
JUDASKISS COLIN
FROG OMIT ATARI
KNEE SEES TENET

- 11 "Ognes" composer
- 12 Name in the middle of a masthead
- 13 "There Mountain" (1967 Donovan hit)
- 14 Empire's cry
- 23 Like much lost-and-found property
- 24 Has dates
- 26 Pierce
- 27 Chipped in
- 29 "Later!"
- 31 Unreliable source
- 33 Select on a computer
- 34 Cellist's cube
- 35 Intentions
- 36 Some winter merriment
- 37 Kind of shell
- 44 Connie's portrayal, in "The Godfather"
- 45 Order
- 47 Resort near the White River National Forest
- 49 Dweller on the Bering Sea
- 50 Conquers
- 52 Castaway's home
- 54 Fulfill, as a bid
- 55 Dashboard abbr.
- 56 de vie
- 57 Big mints in news

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years 1-888-7 ACROSS